Biology, lecture 3

The cell: life’s smallest unit

What every living thing is built from

Cell theory

- All living things are made of **cells**
- The cell is the **basic unit** of life
- Every cell comes from **another cell**

Two kinds of cells

Animal

Membrane, nucleus, mitochondria, no wall

Plant

Adds a cell wall, chloroplasts and a large vacuole

Both

Cytoplasm, ribosomes, a cell membrane

Parts and their jobs

- **Nucleus** holds the DNA and controls the cell
- **Mitochondria** release energy from food
- **Ribosomes** build proteins
- **Chloroplasts** capture light (plants only)

The cell membrane

- A thin, flexible boundary
- Lets water and nutrients **in**
- Lets waste **out**

Remember

- Cells are the building blocks of life
- Plant cells add a wall, chloroplasts and a vacuole
- Each part has one job